25th June, 1916

St. Andrew's Church, Madras

Joint Chaplain.—Rev. Neil Meldrum, M.A., B.D., 2, Victoria Crescent, Egmore.
Kirk Session.—The Chaplain, J. R. Atkinson Esq., W. A. Beardsell Esq., Dr. J. R. Henderson, W. Hutton Esq., W. Lamb Esq., A. C. Puddephatt Esq., R. W. Ross Esq., Capt. A. J. H. Russell, Col. R. Robertson, J. F. Simpson Esq., and W. A. Turner Esq.
Church Officer—Mr. H. Boys, Kirk Villa, Egmore.
Organist and Choirmaster—R. L. Hird Esq., Roundhay, Chetput.
Free School Headmistress—Mrs. Bennet, St. Andrew's Free School.
Dorcas Society Secretary—Mrs. J. R. Atkinson, Goodwood, Kilpauk.
Women's Guild Secretary—Mrs. Turner, The Priory, Mount Road.
Women's Guild Treasurer—Mrs. Ross, College House, Saidapet.
Sunday School Superintendent—H. P. Ashworth Esq., Kalamunda, Nungambakum.
School Visitation Secretary—Mrs. Taylor-Mitchell, Luttrell's Gardens, Kilpauk.
Honorary Auditor—H. P. Ashworth Esq., Nungambakum.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES
7 - SEP 1916
MADRAS

Church Notices

SITTINGS AND MAGAZINES—Application for vacant sittings should be made to the Clerk, with whom should also be lodged orders for the Monthly Parish Magazine (Rs. 2 per annum), and the Indian Quarterly, *St. Andrew* (8 annas per annum). To seat holders *Life and Work*, with local Supplement, is supplied free. Copies of the Hymnary, Psalter, and Anthem Book, with or without music, may also be purchased from the Church Clerk.

HOURS OF SERVICE—Divine Service is held on Sundays at 8 A.M. and 6 P.M. Choir Practice on Thursdays at 6-15 P.M.

HOLY COMMUNION—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is dispensed after evening service on the first Sunday of every quarter, and after morning service on the sixth Sunday of the quarter.

BAPTISM—The Sacrament of Baptism is administered in the Church on Thursday evenings, or on Sundays after the morning service.

FUNERALS—Funerals should be arranged through an Undertaker.

ST. ANDREW'S CEMETERY—St. Andrew's Cemetery is, by Government order, reserved for the burial of *bona fide* members of St. Andrew's Church and Presbyterian soldiers; and the sanction of the Chaplain has to be obtained.

FREE SCHOOL—There is an Industrial Class in connection with the Free School. Orders for towels, dusters, etc., may be sent to Mrs. Atkinson, "Goodwood," Kilpauk, or to the Church Clerk. The money thus earned helps to defray the salary of an extra teacher.

WOMEN'S GUILD—The Women's Guild meets on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 4-30 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL at 5 P. M. from January to April and August to December.

Church Notes

Holy Communion.—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed at evening Service on July 2nd.

Congratulations.—It was a matter of great satisfaction to us all to see in the Birthday Honours the name of the Rev. Dr. Skinner, the esteemed and honoured Principal of the Madras Christian College. For over 30 years Dr. Skinner has laboured manfully in the cause of Higher Education and the gold Kaiser-i-Hind Medal now bestowed upon him is a tribute to the worth of those labours. The honour is all the more gratifying for this reason that Dr. Skinner is the most unostentatious of men and the last man in the world to invite any public recognition of his work.

The Kirk Session.—Owing to one cause or another the ranks of Kirk Session have been very much depleted this hot weather—temporarily only we are glad to say—and occasionally the attendance of elders at evening Service has reached low water-mark. We are missing for the time being Dr. J. R. Henderson and Mr. W. A. Beardsell who have gone for a three months' tour to Australia. It will be a great favour if elders will, as far as possible, kindly consider themselves as being on duty without any further intimation till the end of July. After that we shall be able to send out the customary notices again.

Free School.—During the greater part of May and June the Free School has been closed for the hot weather holidays. It will re-open on July 3rd at the usual hour when it is hoped there will be a full attendance. There are still one or two vacancies we should like to see filled. The attendance of children at Church during the holidays has been fairly good and I think we must devise some means of encouraging such regular attendance. I have to thank Mrs. Taylor-Mitchell for her kind gift of new table-cloths for the school tables and I have also to thank a friend who remains anonymous for a very kind gift of Rs. 10 towards giving the children a treat.

Dorcas Society.—The half-yearly distribution of clothes by the Dorcas Society to the poor of the congregation will be held in the School-room about the middle of July on a date which will be intimated later on. Mrs. Atkinson in her own energetic way is busily engaged in making the necessary arrangements.

Organ Repairs.—During the last two months, as most of us know, the Organ has been undergoing a thorough overhauling. It was high time that the work should have been taken in hand, for with dust and rats and ordinary wear and tear the mechanism of the organ was in a bad way. Now that it has been repaired the differemce is obvious to even the most untrained ear and one realises more than ever the great beauty of the tone and the worth of the organ. The whole congregation cannot but be grateful to Mr. R. L. Hird, our Organist, for it is solely owing to his self-sacrificing labour that the work was, at this time of stress, financially possible for us.

Mr. H. P. Ashworth.—I am very grateful to Mr. Ashworth for his kindness in auditing the Annual Financial Statement of the Church. Mr. Ashworth has so much other work of a similar nature to do, that we appreciate all the more the time and trouble he spends over our church accounts.

Roll of Service.—I have just heard from two Anglo-Indian lads connected with St. Andrew's who are serving their country. They both went from Madras with the recent Ambulance Detachments. Private Bertie Cousins is at present on board one of the Hospital Ships, while Private R. Thacker is in training at Bombay. At the very outset of the war the latter tried to enlist in the regular army, but the authorities would not pass him owing to one of his forbears having been Dutch. After many efforts, he has been now successful. We send every good wish with both these lads.

We are glad also to hear from Lieutenant Guthrie somewhere in Mesopotamia, "My subsection" he writes "was the highest up the Tigris that was not caught in Kut." He writes in very appreciative terms of the parcel sent him by the Women's Guild.

The late Earl Kitchener.—The passing away of so mighty a figure as Earl Kitchener of Khartoum could not be left unnoticed in our services and it was only fitting that the Chaplain at evening Service on June 11th should make reference to the Empire's great loss. The singings which were in keeping with the occasion were well rendered by the Choir, and Mr. R.L. Hird, the Organist, played the Dead March in Saul with great feeling and expression. As I have been asked to get printed what I said on that occasion, I take the liberty of repeating here the report of part of the sermon as it appeared in the *Madras Mail*:—

"The Rev. Neil Meldrum took the evening Service at St. Andrew's (the Kirk), and, preaching from the words 'Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel,' said:—

This week through which we have just lived has been one pregnant with mighty happenings. Our hearts beat high to read how our seamen bearded the enemy on the threshold of his lair and drove him back shattered and reeling in unheroic haste to the safe shelter of his mines and his harbours. We flushed with pride to read, but who of us was not sick at heart at the ghastly loss of our best and bravest? They fell like Blake and mighty Nelson —but ah the pity of it. Warfare by land

has grim pages enough but is there anything to compare with the concentrated horror and devilry of a sea fight in this year of grace? It surely makes one more telling argument for some saner method of settling international disputes and treacheries than by war's brutal inhuman ways. The clash of ships off Denmark would have made the week notable enough, but there was more to follow. We read of those colossal assaults upon Verdun—futile, vain, murderous—but Verdun still is unvanquished, is still the virgin fortress. On the east, too, our Allies, so we read, are advancing along that road which we trust and pray they will never retrace except as victors flushed with hardly-earned triumph. May their brilliant and lasting success be a good omen of that great day! Surely there was enough here to hearten even those whose hearts have been heaviest and gloomiest.

And yet the hopes and expectations so kindled have been suddenly dimmed, and all the triumph looks feeble and pale. A stormy sea, a floating mine, a doomed ship, and never more may our land avail itself of that mighty brain, that undismayed heart, that unswerving will. Was ever there an end so tragic to a life so great, was ever there a taking away so inexplicably bewildering? To die on the field of battle, to share in the glory of a Wolfe, a Moore, a Nelson, that is the right death of the warrior, whose very life was the marshalling of armies and the handling of men. But to go down to the depths of the sea by a chance so pitiful, oh! surely that is not the death he would have chosen to die. And yet was he not on the field of battle, too, for we knew on what grave and weighty service of the State he was bound, and we know that it was in harness that he died. But he is gone and men gazed at each other with a dazed stupefication, and wondered if the news could be true. It seems impossible that that great pillar of Empire should have been shattered, that we shall look no more on that strong face and looking take heart of courage!

He is gone, and for the moment it seems as if the mighty heart of Empire had ceased its beating. He had done work so great for his country during the years that have gone. The place he filled in the imaginations of men was a unique one. I do not know if he was popular in the sense in which many a statesman is popular. No man ever courted popularity less, sought to win the favour of the groundlings less. I do not know if he was loved in the sense that men loved the aged warrior whom the nation laid to rest at the war's outset. But there was one thing he was. He was trusted and he was worthy of trust. He was the man of few words who allowed his deeds to speak, and they spoke loudly enough. He made no false, dazzling promises as many another man has been tempted to make. When the first shock of the war had broken upon us and men with an easy optimism were already marching on the road to Berlin and planting their standards at the gate of the Kaiser's palace, this man bade his country prepare for the mightiest of wars, a war the length of which was not to be days but years. There were two reasons in particular that accounted for the willing trust men put in him. First, there was his record, packed with mighty doings for the State. The memories of many of us here will readily go back to the day when after years of deliberate unsparing drudgery and toil he burst upon men's eyes as a great leader and born organiser. Those were the days when at Omdurman he smashed the forces of barbarism and gave that tortured valley of the Nile peace and quiet. We learned too that this grim, stern soldier had in him the makings of a great diplomatist. Fashoda and South Africa and Egypt all bear tribute to his name. He was trusted because he had shown himself willing to be trusted. And the second reason I think is this. He kept himself aloof from all the chicanery and place hunting and envyings of modern political life. He held himself aloof from party strife. His mistress was the State and no party, and so it came to pass that his position was a unique one. "Here is a man," men said, "who has no axe to grind, who has little to say, but if you give him work to do, will do it resolutely and well, no man better." Thus it was that when the thunder cloud of war burst and we stared at the chaos and havoc, we turned with one accord to this man and breathed more freely when we knew that once again he had taken up the great burden. There was a great modesty too about the man. "I only wish I could do more", he wrote to a friend, "or rather that what I do was better work." And now he has gone and we feel that no mightier blow has been dealt us in this conflict. We feel we have lost the one brain and heart and will, the one personality the State could least bear to lose.

They say that his work as an organiser was done and that he himself had turned his eyes to some other post where he could be of greater service. I do not know whether that is true or not. The day alone will show

whether we can spare him. There are many things to be done by his country, but I think even in this sad hour despair is not one of them. We have to give God thanks for those many years of unremitting and unostentatious but mighty service. A man like that and service like that is a gift worth giving God thanks for, and I believe we have not yet reached the time when we can understand how full and grateful those thanks need now to be.

COLLECTIONS, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

1916		Rs.	A.	P.
May 7th, Ordinary	...	59	10	9
,, 14th ,,	...	40	8	6
,, 21st ,,	...	31	5	3
,, 28th ,,	...	44	14	6
Total	...	176	7	0

CHURCH REGISTER

Baptism

"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

May 24th, 1916—William Charles, son of Alfred Corbett and Florence Augusta Vander Holt.
June 1st, 1916—David Duncan, son of Lyle and Jane Helen Keay.

Burials

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

May 25th, 1916—William Charles, infant son of Alfred Corbett and Florence Augusta Vander Holt.

CHURCH ACCOUNTS

I.—Monthly Statement of Kirk Session Fund Account for May, 1916

RECEIPTS	Rs.	A.	P.	DISBURSEMENTS	Rs.	A.	P.
By Government Grant	109	0	0	To Church Choir for April, 1916 ...	70	0	0
,, Seat Rents	147	0	0	,, ,, Estabt. do. ...	187	8	0
,, Church Collections	176	7	0	,, Bookbinder (choir books) ...	24	0	0
,, Refunds	10	0	0	,, Clockwinder, Nov., Decr., 1915, Jany. Feb. and March, 1916...	25	0	0
,, Clockwinding (Government) ...	25	0	0	,, Communion Elements ...	3	4	0
,, Donation for compound (special)	100	0	0	,, Electric current (April) ...	13	8	0
,, Christmas List, etc.	25	6	0	,, Printing	16	9	0
				,, Free School (cash)	222	14	7
				,, Miscellaneous	4	15	0
					567	10	7
				Balance Credit this Account ...	25	2	5
Total Rs ...	592	13	0	Total Rs ...	592	13	0

II.—Monthly Statement of St. Andrew's Free School Account for May, 1916

RECEIPTS	Rs.	A.	P.	DISBURSEMENTS	Rs.	A.	P.
By Subscriptions	8	0	0	To Teachers and Establishment ...	193	5	7
,, Refund	10	0	0	,, Food	44	13	0
,, Kirk Session Account ...	222	14	7	,, Miscellaneous Account (Kindergarten)	2	12	0
Total Rs ...	240	14	7	Total Rs ...	240	14	7

NEIL MELDRUM,
Joint Chaplain.

METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE, MADRAS.